



John Raymond Warwood, a long time resident of Reese Creek in Belgrade, MT, passed away in Billings on November 18, 2008. John was born on May 14, 1933 at the William Warwood homestead in Reese Creek, to John Lewis and Gladys (Maher) Warwood. He attended the Reese Creek School and later graduated from Bozeman's Gallatin High School in 1951. Following High School, John briefly attended Montana State College, but quickly

determined that he wanted to take another path. John subsequently enlisted in the US Coast Guard with the goal of "guarding the coast of the United States." To his surprise, he often found himself on the high seas where he embarked on several interesting adventures. Most notably, this included the history-making Beaufort Sea Expedition in 1954 as a member of the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Northwind. John also became a reasonably successful boxer while in the Coast Guard. However, his short-lived success ended when he ran into a Gold Gloves champion assigned to another ship. This experience taught John that just when you convince yourself that you're the best at anything, you're bound to run into someone just a little bit better. This was a life-lesson that he passed on to his children.

After leaving the Coast Guard, John worked as a cable splicer for Pacific Northwest Bell in Seattle, Washington. He was employed by the phone company for 37 years in several different capacities. While living in Seattle, John met his first wife Susan Roos whom he married in 1955. John and Susan had three children; Mike, Laurie and Lisa. Susan passed away in 1965 after a long bout with cancer. John married his second wife, Barbara Sines, in 1969 in Cashmere, WA. John and Barb left the Seattle area in 1995 and retired to the family ranch in Belgrade. They were married for 39 years at the time of his passing. Barbara was his primary caregiver for the last several years of his life. Thank you Barb!

John enjoyed many hobbies. Most recently, John and Barb were members of the Montana Ghost Town Society and they enjoyed their annual trips to many of Montana's historical points of interest. He was an avid outdoorsman and he particularly enjoyed camping, hunting and fishing. John was especially adept at working with his hands and was frequently sought out by those who needed a helping hand with anything ranging from car repairs to a complex construction project.

In addition to Susan, John was preceded in death by his mother, Gladys; his father, Lewis; his brother, Bob; two daughters by his first marriage, Lisa and an unnamed infant; and his grandson, Kenny. In addition to John's wife, Barbara, he is survived by his son, Mike, and his daughter, Laurie. John is also survived by Mike's wife Chris and four grandchildren, Tyson and Cory (Lisa's sons) and Kelli and Erin (Mike's daughters). Finally, John is survived by many in-laws, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews located throughout the Northwest. All will miss his sense of humor!